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Secretary's book for

LEAMING FAMILY REUNION

1933-1948

1867401

Sunday August 20th 1933.

Descendants of
Furman Learning (1786-1832)
met in the Presbyterian Church
at Romney, Ind.

A committee composed of
Mrs Hunter B Learning, Curvin
Learning, and Mrs Mary Austin
Simison, had planned a pro-
gramme and sent invitations
far and near, hoping to form
a permanent organization.

The Romney Pres. Church
was chosen as a meeting place
for this reunion, for it was
here that members of this branch
of the family, coming to Ind in
1845, found a small group
of Earnest men and women,
whom they joined and helped
re-organize and establish their
church home.--

At noon all gathered in
the dining room and joined in
singing, "Praise God from whom
all blessings flow"

Here we found, the able committee,
composed of, Mrs Elinor Shoemaker and
Mrs Mable Duskey and others, had
arranged the dining room affairs
most agreeably.

About mid-afternoon all
gathered in the auditorium of the
Church where Mrs Hunter Learning
presided as temporary Chairman
which was done in a very pleasing

and capable manner.

The programme opened with Jean Eskelsen at the piano and the audience singing America, followed by prayer, by an old friend of the family, Rev. Chas M Rauch, of Chicago.

Mrs Hunter Leaming then gave a most excellent talk on the motive. In gathering, quoting, the proverb, "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches".

Mrs Leaming emphasized the fact the family is fortunate in having many of their activities, recorded in letters and records making available interesting material for family gatherings.

Miss Alice Leaming explained a chart she had made, tracing the lineage from Christopher Leomyrige (old spelling) our common American ancestor, down to Dr Furman Leaming, one of the first to come to Romney, Ind.

Mrs Mary Leaming Austin, of Clearfield, Pa. at this time gave description of some of the experiences her father had in coming to Ind - from Philadelphia in 1845.

James Leaming, son of Hunter & Ruby Leaming, read a letter written in 1832, by one of the professors in Pennsylvania U University to Mrs Furman Leaming, mother of Dr. Furman Leaming, commending her son, who was seventeen years of age

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for his splendid department and high grades upon graduating from State institution.

Mrs Elinor Shoemaker read letters of regret from the following persons.
Mrs Sallie Lemmon Holmes - Centralia, Ind.,
Mr & Mrs David Pyke of Indianapolis
Dr & Mrs Keambing Pyke - Lafayette, Ind.,
Mr & Mrs Marion Leaming, Oak Park, Ill.
Mr & Mrs Roland Martin Omaha, Neb.
Mr & Mrs Frank Sooker - Charlotte, N. C.

Mr Harry E. Rauch and his bro. Rev. Charles M. Rauch, whose mother until her wedding day, made her home in Dr Leaming's family; gave very exceptional talks regarding their recollections of the family.

Mr Harry C Leaming, Hunter B Leaming, Mr Elmer R Watkins related incidents and experiences, in the life of Col. Henry Leaming, during the Civil War.

Col. Leaming served during the entire Civil War, and went with Sherman on his march to the sea.

The nominating committee composed of the following members Mr Chas Dunkleys - Hunter Leaming and Mrs. Robt J. Millis, recommended the following officers for the ensuing year, the same were elected by acclamation. Pres. G. C. Leaming Jr.
Vice Pres. Dr. F. L. Pyke -
Sec. Mrs S. C. Malsbary - Mrs. Frank Simison
Treas - Mr H. C. Leaming. Historian

Several members expressed a desire to have an annual gathering and a tentative date of Wed. Aug. 15, was set for this year.

Mrs Mary Leaming suggested a vote of thanks be given Mrs Hunter Leaming, for her efforts in taking the initiative in bringing the descendants together, and a unanimous standing vote was given.

The contribution towards defraying expenses amounted to $6.20

And the registration disclosed sixty-six present.

Through the courtesy of Mr H C. Leaming a portrait of Frontack Leaming, painted more than a hundred years ago, was on display.

A number of keepsakes and photographs were also shown.

The Chairman thanked all who aided in making the day a success, after singing "God Be With You, Till We Meet Again"

Mr Charles Raudt closed the meeting with prayer.

Mr Conwan Leaming Pres.

Mary Leaming Malsbary Sec'y.

Sunday Aug. 19th 1934.

The second annual reunion of descendants of J. Forman Leaming (1786-1852) assembled in Romney, at the Pres. Church, beginning at noon with a basket dinner. After greetings we on the company went to the auditorium of the church for a programme, which had been arrange by the officers.

Beginning at 2.15 o'clock the friends were called to order by the president, Mr. Cumin Leaming.

All joined singing one verse of the familiar old hymn "Blest Be The Tie"

The Pres asked for the name of any new members. The only new member this year was

Mary Jane Malsbary age 3 mos.

The Sec'y was asked to read the names of members who have died since the last reunion they were

Mr Thomas Forman -
Mr Lewis Forman -
Mrs Alice S Leaming
Mrs Mabel Leaming Austin
Mrs Sallie Leaming Holmes -

The audience stood with bowed heads to pay silent tribute to the departed and ~~was led with~~ closed by all repeating the Lord's prayer, led by the president.

Letters were read from

several who were unable to be present Mrs Mary Simison read a letter from Rev. C. M. Rauch, who was an invited guest in which he wished to pay a tribute to the oldest member present, Mrs Ervin Inskeep, quoting, "I expect to pass through this world but once; and any good thing, therefore, that I can do or any kindness I can show to any fellow human being, let me do it now.

Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again".

Then we letters I regret from Mr & Mrs. J. R. Kirkpatrick -

Mr Roland Austin - Mr & Mrs John Austin, Mr & Mrs Warren Rocker -

Mrs Josephine Leaming - Mrs Rev Forman Mrs Chas. D. Meigs - Mrs Mary Meigs - Mrs Ellen Leaming Mattsch, granddaughter of Jeremiah Leaming - Fern A. Leaming - Clark Leaming Perry Leaming & George & Nand Leaming.

At this time we were greatly favored with a beautiful piano duet played by Mrs Albert Ogle & Mrs Hunter Leaming, and very much enjoyed by the audience -

Mrs. E. R. Watts, read very interesting letters from Leamings in Galion - Ohio, Mansfield - Texas and Baton Rouge - La. We hope to have them with us in some future reunions.

Mrs Ruby Leaming read a most interesting paper, giving an

in the life of Furman Leaming by ~~Jerah~~ Jeremiah Leaming - at the close of the reading, the copy was presented to Mr Harry C Leaming, who was present.

Dr F. L. Pyke read a letter from Mrs Sallie Holmes dated Sept 11-1933 telling of the death of Mr Lewis Furman in Ithica, N.Y. age 76 years.

Mrs Austin told of Mr Furmans struggle for his education - He was a graduate of Wabash College - Taught music and trained boys' choirs for years. gave up music and taught Latin & Latin in Cornell, College, and John Hopkins Univ. Was active in the World War, caring for orphans, and was especially interested in helping the blind.

The pres. appointed the nominating Com. as follows: Eleanor Leaming
Harry Leaming & Hunter Leaming.

They reported for Pres. Mrs Mary Austin.
Vice " "
Sec'y Miss Alice Leaming
Treas. Marion Leaming

They were elected by acclamation.

After some discussion it was decided to hold the 1935 reunion in June the exact date to be decided later.

Reading of minutes of last year by Sec'y adopted as corrected.

adjourned Sang "God Be With you Till we Meet Again" Mrs Pyke at the piano.

G. Cummings Leaming Pres.
Mrs. Mary Melibeny Leaming.

Sunday, Aug 18, '35.

The descendants of Furman Leaming, of Cape May and Philadelphia, held their third annual reunion at the home of their president, Mrs. Mary Leaming Similon on Sunday, August 16, 1935. After a delicious basket dinner eaten at small tables scattered over the shady lawn, the meeting was called to order by the president.

"Faith of Our Fathers" was sung, the singing being lead by Albert Pyke. Then the president spoke, welcoming us to her home and lawn, and told of the long history of hospitality connected with the home as the residences of her cousins Mr. & Mrs. Harry Leaming and her aunt Mrs. Elizabeth Leaming Pyke.

The audience stood in silent tribute to the memory of Mrs. Margaret P. Leaming, Leaming Kirkpatrick, and George L. Leaming, after which Stewart Leaming led in prayer. Reading of the minutes followed, then announcement of letters from absentees, and the presentment of bills.

An entertaining extract from "Aunt Esther's Journal was read by Miss Emily Meigs. Aunt Esther was a sister to Miss Meigs's grandmother. She married an Englishman, Mr. Walker, and the journal described their journey from Virginia to Indiana in 1852. They lived first at Bedford and then came to Romney to be near her dear friends Mr. & Mrs. Charles Meigs.

Mrs. Hunter B. Leaming read ~~an interesting~~ paper on "Interesting Jeremiahs of the Leaming Family". Beginning with the

historical conditions in 1670, she told of Christopher and Jeremiah Leaming starting for America in that year. "On the way over Jeremiah was seized with seasickness and a bleeding at the nose and died, leaving Christopher to found the family in America.

One of the most famous Jeremiahs was a clergyman of the Church of England who was suspected of Toryism during the Revolution and imprisoned. After the war, he was offered the honor of being the first Episcopalian Bishop of America but refused on account of his advanced age - 66. He was the only Leaming found who had ever been in prison.

The nominating committee made the following report:

Pres. Hunter B. Leaming; vice-pres. Elnor Inskeep; secretary, Mary L. Simison; treas. - Harry Leaming; historian, Alice Leaming. The report was accepted and the election unanimous.

There was a discussion of ways to make the meetings more interesting to the younger generation - one suggestion was to have a table where the younger members can eat together and so become better acquainted with each other.

An invitation to meet at Hazelwood was made and accepted as being the first home of the family in Indiana. Hunter B. Leaming spoke of the associations with Hazelwood.

Miss Emily Meigs asked why the Leamings came to Indiana. Mrs. Austin answered that Uncle Charley Meigs, returning from a trip to St. Louis to collect a

debt, passed through Tippecanoe county and became so enthusiastic about the country he persuaded his brother and brothers-in-law to come out here.

Hunter Leaming suggested separate programs for the juniors, the motion was tabled. The date for the next meeting was discussed but the decision was left to the host.

On the suggestion of Mrs. Albert Pyke, a rising vote of thanks was given to the hostess.

A speech by Mrs. Nana Leaming told of her husband's family & her visit to the grave of her husband's grandfather at Stockbell on the Origen Funk farm.

Albert Pyke spoke of the value of the presence of "Aunt Mary" and of our regret at the absence of "Aunt Elinor".

Albert Pyke lead in the singing of "God Be With You Till We Meet Again".

Mrs. Mary L. ~~Austin~~ Simison, Pres.

Alice Leaming, Secy.

Hazelwood - Romney, Indiana
Sunday, July 26th, 1936.

The fourth annual reunion of the descendants of Furman Leaming (1786-1832) was held at Hazelwood, the home of Curwen and Ruth Leaming. A bounteous and delicious basket dinner was served at noon on the screened verandahs, pleasant with their protecting vines even though in the shade the thermometer registered 102°.

Call to order — Afterwards the meeting was called to order by the president - Hunter Bell Leaming. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read - A correction that the Mrs. Walker referred to was really Mrs. Com. Meigs was accepted and the minutes then approved.

Minutes.

Historian's report. — The Historian - Alice Leaming - then reported the marriage of Rebecca Simison to Herman Hoskins on August 10 - 1935 and the birth of Samuel Christie Malsbary to Dale and Ann Malsbary on May 24th, 1936.

Letters — The secretary read letters from Mrs. Mowbray, Mont. Meigs, Bess Meigs and Mrs. Nana Leaming, in which they expressed their regrets at not being able to attend the reunion. They also sent their best wishes. Miss Louise Brown read an entertaining letter from Ann Leaming Booker who pointed out the unusual coincidence in which this reunion was being held on the 25th anniversary of her wedding in the same house with many of the same guests.

Bills. — The following bills were presented and allowed:

Printing and Postage	$1.65
Ice Cream	3.30
Historian's Supplies	6.55
Total -	$11.50

Elmer Waters reported that Emma's illness prevented her attendance and her giving her part of the program which was a review of the Family genealogy.

Program. The program was then taken up, Reminiscences of Hazelwood being given by Mrs. Mary Leaming Austin. She told how her father had come to

Reminiscences of Hazelwood Indiana in 1844 as a young married man to found his home and family in a new land: how he himself had grubbed out the underbrush to clear a space on which to build his seven-roomed house. This home became the meeting place of many relatives who came for visits. It was also a place of refuge for those who needed homes.

She told how Polly Tyler appeared one cold winter day asking to help with the butchering. She needed work and a home for herself and her two boys. Grandmother couldn't withstand such an appeal and in about two weeks Polly went for her boys whom she had left with a kindly negro family some miles away. Polly herself was part Indian and after the death of her Virginia mistress had had to shift for herself. Grandmother felt that Polly was deserving and she became a family institution - living the rest of her life at Hazelwood. Her name was Mary Tyler - born in Virginia in 1802 - and died in Romney in 1882. Her body now lies near the Leaming lot in the old Romney cemetery. Her children were a trial to the family - Alex was given a home with Aunt Em Freeman, and Tyler stayed at Hazelwood. He ran off during the Civil War and became a brave soldier - but because he didn't have the mentality to be afraid. If hungry he would sit down in the midst of a battle, he ate.

Grandmother also gave a home to the

motherless little Martha Jackson - only five years old, while the older sister Jane went to Uncle Lew Leaming's. Both these children spent their girlhood days in the Leaming homes, loved as part of the family - leaving only for homes of their own when married.

She also told us that her Uncle Harry's three young sons spent a great part of their childhood at Hazelwood.

She spoke of the education of the children - that her sister Elmir - when only six years old, was sent back to Villa Nova to school - that later, the children of the Leaming, Meigs and Campbell families were taught at Hazelwood by Miss Case. Her brother Henry went east to school - to Bridgeton, New Jersey and her brother Curwen, when twelve years old went to Mr. Silor's Academy at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania - because his uncle, Dr. John Curwen was then located there as superintendent of the State Asylum. Later both boys attended Mr. Lanning's school in Lafayette.

She told how, after the death of her Aunt Rachel, her Aunt Mame went to keep house for Uncle Lew - whose home was the former Madden home - property now owned by Henry Sand. Every night for four years, although only a little girl, she trudged through the woods to sleep with Aunt Mame to keep her back warm.

She closed her reminiscences by mentioning the warm friendships always existing between the Meigs and the Leaming families.

Shaking the Family Tree.

The next number on the program was given by James Leaming - Shaking the Family Tree. Part of his very interesting material was found in genealogies in the Crawfordsville library. He mentioned the coming of Christopher Leaming from England to Long Island about 1670 - and that in 1691 he moved to Cape May,

New Jersey. That the Leamings were held in high esteem holding such responsible official positions as members of the New Jersey assembly - justices of the supreme civil and quarter master general of the province.

He read a receipt of Furman Leaming's dated Nov. 19, 1816 - showing payment of the annual rental - $250.00 of part #100 of the 6th Presbyterian Church - in Philadelphia. He also had a carefully detailed description and map of an Ohio farm - the handiwork of Jeremiah Leaming. It showed great skill and care.

A Boston Leaming. Fred Leaming then told us of his correspondence with Miss Florence Leaming which started because in a Boston library she had found his name in a Fort Wayne directory. She had won the $300 Cabot Lodge prize for the best short treatise on early settlers in Massachusetts.

He also told how a safe had been broken into in an old mill in Yountsville. Among the documents and letters was one from Uncle Curwen Leaming, dated May 31-1881 - concerning twenty-four fleeces of wool sent to the mill.

Collection The collection was then taken. It amounted to $9.55.

The report of the nominating committee then Officers - given by Curwen Leaming asked that the same officers be retained as follows:

Hunter Leaming - President
Elmer Inskeep - V-President
Mary Simson - Sec'y
Harry Leaming - Treas.
Alice Leaming - Historian

The nominations were accepted by acclamation.

The Historian then requested that certain members of the families supply information by filling out certain forms which she had

prepared-

Hunter Leaming presented the subject of the name Persons, versus Parsons Leaming, giving conclusive evidence from records and books in his possession that the name is Persons - P-e-r-s-o-n-s, and that that spelling and pronunciation should be used exclusively.

Persons

Cousin Harry Leaming then told about some of his father's amusing experiences in the Civil War.

A vote of thanks was rendered to Ruth and Curwen for their hospitality.

The time for the reunion in 1937 was set for the last Sunday in July, Hazel and Fred Leaming inviting the group to their home in Romney.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Hunter B. Leaming. President.
Mary Simison.
Secretary.

Hazelwood - Romney - Indiana
Sunday, July 25 - 1937.

With an attendance of over fifty members and guests, the fifth annual reunion of the descendants of Furman Leaming - 1786 - 1832 was held at the home of Ruth and Curwen Leaming. Although the day was rainy and windy, the house gave ample room for all. The basket dinner afforded a fine opportunity to visit together.

The meeting was called to order by the president Hunter Leaming and all joined in singing "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow."

Minutes read & corrected

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read, after which the question arose as to the location of Uncle Lewis Leaming house. The minutes were corrected to read that the location was that of the old Madden home - property now owned by Henry Rauch - The minutes were then approved.

The treasurer's report showed a balance of $4.60 and the collection then taken amounted to $7.70.

The following bills were presented and allowed:

For ice cream & ice $3.25
For printing & postage $1.60
$4.85

The Historian's report showed the marriage of:
Eleanor McCoy to Luther Leaming, May 8, 1937
the births of:
Beatrice Anne Hoskins to Rebecca & Herman Hoskins, Aug. 7 - 1936
Richard Keith Inskeep to Ruth & Harry Inskeep, July 5 - 1937
the deaths of:
Mrs. Flora Fox Rauch - Aug. 18 - 1936
Mrs. Elmir Leaming Inskeep - Sept. 1 - 1936
James Meigs - Nov. 6 - 1936.

The group then stood in silent tribute to the memory

of those who have gone before.

The Three Brothers: The program which then followed was composed of recollections of the Three Brothers who had settled here in Romney.

The first was given by Elinor Leaming Shoemaker about her grandfather, Dr. Furman Leaming, her material being taken from the memoirs started by Furman Leaming, the father of the Three Brothers, and copied by their sister - our "Great Auntie Diana".

1. Dr. Furman Leaming

Dr. Furman Leaming was born at Cape May, N.J. Aug. 30, 1815 at Cape May, N.J., but when he was a little boy, his parents then moved to Philadelphia where he was educated at the University of Pennsylvania, and later studied medicine and received his degree from the medical school of the same university. After two years at the Dispensary in Philadelphia, he spent a year as surgeon of a squadron stationed at the mouth of the Mississippi River. He then returned to Philadelphia and resumed his practice, but his heart became affected by so much climbing of stairs in tending his patients that he gave up his profession and he and his wife took up their residence near Romney, Indiana in July 1844. He had been married to Mary Curwen at Walnut Hill, Sept. 28 - 1843. His brother Harry came with them and both went to farming. They encountered many difficulties and hardships in this new life to which, as city-bred they were so unaccustomed. They also suffered from fever and ague, but never complained nor regretted having come to this prairie home.

Here the seven children of Furman and Mary Leaming were born. Here they helped found a church in which for years the Doctor taught a large Bible class - and was also ruling elder. His death in April 1-1891 was due to heart trouble.

To the foregoing account given by his grand-daughter the following items were added informally by others present at the meeting — He had been Clerk of the Session of the Romney Presbyterian Church until he was too old to carry it on, when those duties were taken over by his son Henry. He had been the foremost scientist in the community, lecturing on Chemistry at the Masonic Hall in Romney, which meetings were often attended by students from Marian College. He prepared Dr. Wetherill in Chemistry to enter medical school. He was the first secretary of the First Fair Association in the county.

Col. Harry Leaming.

In the absence of Fred Leaming who was scheduled to talk about his grand-father, Col. Harry Leaming, an account of Furman Leaming, the father of the Three Brothers was given by Charlotte Leaming Kirkpatrick, a great grand-daughter. The source of her material was an account of his life written by his wife, Hannah Ludlam Leaming. He was born at Cape May, New Jersey, 1786, where he spent his boyhood. He was educated at Burlington, N. J. and at Philadelphia, after which he took up farming. When he was 20 years old his father died, and he and his elder brother settled the father's estate, valued at $100,000. When 23, he married Hannah Ludlam and they lived at Cape May for 5 years, and while there he was judge of the court and a representative in the state senate.

Furman Leaming the father

To secure better educational facilities for his children, in 1816 he moved to Philadelphia and established himself in the hardware business. When he died at 45 years of age, his estate was valued at $80,000.

In commenting on his personal appearance, his wife writes that the portrait is a good likeness except that the mouth projects a little too much and the expression lacks animation.

He was a man of mild disposition, loving and generous to his family, quiet in habits, a great reader, and strongly religious. His judgments were given only after thorough consideration and were free from party bias. He was an exceptionally capable business man, and all his dealings showed the strictest integrity and a high sense of honor.

Although he seemed to have a fairly strong constitution, he died at the age of 46, leaving his widow and eight children.

Lewis Leaming.

The third number on the program was devoted to the brother, Lewis Leaming. It was given by Jane Leaming who first read excerpts from Lewis Leaming's will, written April 19-1876.

To Jane Jackson Madden, he left the 50 acres on which his home stood, and most of his furniture and household articles.

To his brother, Henry Leaming, he left 80 acres and after several other bequests, the residue was left to his brothers and sisters.

His nephew, Henry Leaming was made executor of his estate.

Another interesting feature concerning this brother was his account book, which, with the will, are now in the possession of Hunter Leaming. The accounts run over a period of years from 1865 to 1874. These accounts showed most painstaking care in their keeping. They also gave an insight into his character, showing his loving interest in the children of his brothers and sisters. The tragedy of his wife's sickness and death is revealed here, too, in the items of medicines, special fruits and other delicacies "for Rachel."

There are items of historical interest also - such as toll to Lafayette - from 15¢ to $1.00 - and postage paid on periodicals. In some instances

food and clothing costs compare favorably with those of the present day, but wages were lower, although medicines were high as well as certain hard material - for instance, canton flannel was 70 ¢ per yard, sugar was from 14½ cents to 21 cents per lb., 50 cents for a gal. of coal oil, and $3.00 for 100 of quinine.

That number concluded the formal program. The picture of the original Hazlewood home was then displayed and copies can be procured from the photographer, Fields, in Lafayette. This house burned on Sunday morning, Dec. 15, 1901 when the thermometer was 20° below zero.

Hunter Leaming then showed us a Bible recently come into his possession. It had been given by Cousin Dan Smith of Philadelphia to Mary Leaming (Great Aunt Mame) in 1875. After her death in 1896 it had gone to Levi Leaming Forman, who asked that it be passed on to Hunter Leaming.

Officers Through Stewart Leaming the nominating committee presented the following officers for the next year:

Elmer Leaming Shoemaker, Chairman
Curwen Leaming - V. chairman
Mary Simison - Secretary
Elmer Wales - Treasurer
Alice Leaming - Historian

These were accepted by acclamation.

The meeting place for next year was left for the decision of the officers, but the time was set for the last Sunday in July.

A standing vote of thanks was given to Ruth and Curwen Leaming for their hospitality.

The secretary was instructed to write a letter of sympathy to the widow of Capt. John Madden whose mother was the Jane Jackson Madden

mentioned in the Lewis Leaming will.

The program was closed with the singing of the old favorite hymn - "Tell the Story" -

Hamer B. Leaming.
President.

Mary Simson.
Secretary.

Romney - Indiana
August 14 - 1938.
Sunday

The sixth annual reunion of the descendants of Furman Leaming, 1786-1832, was held at the home of Mr. Henry Rauch near Romney.

Over fifty members and guests of the family enjoyed a bountiful and delicious dinner at noon, after which the chairman, Mrs Everett Swenson called the group together for a short business session.

The meeting was opened by singing the fine old hymn, 'Faith of Our Fathers' after which prayer was offered by the Reverend Mr. Campbell. The minutes of the preceeding meeting were read and approved.

Miss Alice Leaming, historian, made the following report of changes in the past year:

The deaths of:

Mrs. Chas. D. Meigs of Indianapolis at her winter home in Raymond, Mississippi, Jan. 22 - 1937, aged 83 years.

Mrs. Lewis Foreman - Ithaca, N. Y.

The marriages of:

Wm. John Inskeep, New Richmond to Clare Wilson - Sept. 17 - 1937

George Inskeep, New Richmond to Martha McBee, Linden - Oct. 8 - 1937.

A contribution of $ 9.05 was then received.

The secretary then presented the following bills which were allowed:

To Hunter Leaming for ice cream -	$ 3.30
To Lafayette Printing Co. for postals	2.50
To Mary Simison for notebook	.35
	$ 6.15

A committee composed of Mrs. A. L. Pyke-Hunter and Curwen Learning then presented the following nominations for officers for 1939:

Pres. - Miss Eleanor P. Learning - West Lafayette

V. Pres. Albert Pyke - Lafayette

Sec.-Treas. - Mrs. Frank M. Simison - Romney -

Historian - Miss Alice Learning - Romney -

These were accepted by acclamation.

After a brief discussion the time for the next reunion was set tentatively for the last Sunday in July.

It was noted that this meeting was only the second at which a mother of an older generation with all her children was present; in this instance the mother being Mrs. Mary E. L. Austin of Chambersburg, Pa. The ~~first~~ other instance was at the first meeting with Mrs. Elmer Inskeep and Romney all of her children present.

The accustomed program of family history was dispensed with for a change - but Mrs. Hunter Learning explained informally how the group could claim as ancestors four pilgrims who came over in the Mayflower. John Tilley, his wife and daughter, Elizabeth came over in the Mayflower. The parents died not long afterwards and Elizabeth married John Howland, a pilgrim, who had been one of those to help select a settling place. The line descended from John and Elizabeth Howland thru seven generations to the Furman Learning of the portrait. So his great-great grandchildren (of Jim Learning's generation) would have nine "greats" preceding the grandfather Howland.

Hunter Learning then voiced his appreciation to Mr. Rauch and Christine for the hospitality

of their home which the group acknowledged with a rising vote of thanks.

The meeting closed with the hymn, 'God Be With You' after which the rest of the afternoon was spent socially.

Chairman
Elenor L. Stoemaker

Mary L. Simison,
Secretary.

1867401

Lafayette - Indiana
July 30 - 1939. (Sunday)

The seventh annual reunion of the decendants of Furman Leaming, 1786-1832, was held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Albert L. Pyke, 11th and South Sts, Lafayette, Indiana.

According to custom the group met for a very bountiful dinner at noon - which was followed by a program.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Miss Eleanor Leaming - Donald Pyke sang the Lord's Prayer very beautifully. He also sang the spiritually "Journey's End" by Foster. He was accompanied by his mother.

The usual order of procedure was reversed and the part of the program devoted to family history was turned over to Esther Shoemaker, Betty Leaming and Donald Pyke who presented it in a clever and interesting way. They dramatized the opening of an old trunk in the attic of Esther's home - and the finding therein of old letters - papers - photographs - clothing -

They first read a letter dated May 26. 1858 - written at Bridgeton. N.J. by Henry Leaming when he was twelve years old. It was a long letter to his parents descriptive of his school life there. They next found a picture of Polly Tyler - and briefly gave her connection with the Leaming family. They showed us the wedding dress of Elizabeth Leaming, when she became the bride of Doctor A. D. Pyke - They read an entertaining letter written by the 18 year old Mary Curwen when on a visit to Baltimore and Washington in 1839, just a hundred years before. This was followed by a detailed account of the social life and customs of Cumberland County in the early 1700's - It was related by Mary Patterson Moore - in the late 1700's when she was 82 years old. This Mary Moore was the great grandmother of the great grandmother of the

young people who were reading the account to us. There ~~came~~ came from the trunk also articles once worn by Mary Ewing Elmer - a dress - an embroidered fichu - a comb and so on. - Her daguerretype and that of Jane Hunter ~~Learning~~ Ewing were also in the trunk.

The regular business then followed - with the reading and approval of the minutes of the previous meeting. A very fine letter from Mrs. Warren Booker was read

The historian, Miss Alice Learning made the following report: -

Births:

Suzanne McCoy Learning - Sept. 19 - 1938.
William Allen Inskeep - January 31 - 1939
Susan [illegible] Gaither - Nov. 29 - 1938
Rowland Ray Hoskins - March 7 - 1939
Alan Ferrar Thornton - March 10 - 1939
Phillips Guy Inskeep - May 19 - 1939.

Marriages:

Marion Curwen Learning and Martha Lou Sibbits - April 28 - 1939.

The nominating committee thru Marion Learning presented the following names for offices for 1940.

President - Henry Rauch
V. " - Mrs. Elmer Waters
Sec - Treas - Mrs. Frank Simison
Historian - Miss Alice Learning.

These were accepted unanimously.

Miss Emily Meigs recalled for us some of her early associations with the Learning family. She spoke of the vivid impression she has always had of Dr. Furman Learning as he sat at the church organ playing and singing the chants with such sincerity of feeling and with such a pleasing voice that it became an integral part

of their worship.

The tentative date for the reunion in 1940 was again set for the last Sunday in July.

Mrs. Waite made a motion that we extend to our host and hostess a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality and to Donald, Betty and Esther our appreciation of a very delightful program. This was gladly passed.

The meeting was then adjourned for the social hour, after the closing hymn for which we were delighted to have Miss Emily Meigs accompany us.

Mary Linnison, Secretary. Eleanor P. Leaming
President.

Crawfordsville - Indiana.
August 4 - 1940. (Sunday)

The eighth annual reunion of the descendants of Furman Leaming, 1786 - 1832, was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hunter B. Leaming, 314 S. Walnut St, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

After the usual delicious basket dinner, the meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mr. Henry L. Ranch. In the absence of the regular secretary, the minutes of the 1939 meeting were read by Mrs. Everett L. Shoemaker, in which the name of J. Hunter Leaming was corrected to read Jane Hunter Ewing.

After several letters of regret were read, the historian, Miss Alice Leaming gave the following report:

Births:

Marianne Kirkpatrick, daughter of John and Edith Kirkpatrick, - August 27-1939.

Marriages:

Rowland Austin to Ruth Lippy - January 16 - 1940.
Harry Leaming to Florida Bedford - February - 1940
David Paul Busse to Elizabeth Pyke - June 16, 1940.

Deaths:

Frances Kirkpatrick Gaither, Dec. 30 - 1939.

The following bills were presented and allowed:

Historian's supplies	$1.15
Cards for invitations	1.50
Ice-cream	2.75
	5.40

An offering of $4.50 was received and the bills paid.

The report of the nominating committee made up of Curwen Leaming and Mrs. Elmer Waters was presented and accepted, as follows: for the year 1941.

President: Mrs. Charlotte Kirkpatrick
V. Pres. Mrs. Max Thornton
Sec'y - Mrs. Frank M. Simison
Hist - Miss Alice Leaming.

Curwen Leaming extended an invitation for the 1941 reunion to be held at his home.

The program chairman, Mrs. Elmer Waters then took charge:

James Leaming told of a Leaming hotel that he had visited recently in Santa Monica, California. He had talked with the owner, learned that his name was also James Leaming and that he was the descendant of one Aaron Leaming. He also spoke of another Leaming whom he had heard of who was a plant engineer on a sugar plantation in Cuba.

Mrs. Hunter Leaming then presented a treatise, the "Leaming Mayflower Lineage". She had worked for some time on this article and it contained a vast amount of most interesting information. At the conclusion of her talk, she announced that she had had the findings of her work mimeographed and that a copy was available for each family.

This concluded the program.

It was suggested that Mrs. Leaming be reimbursed for the expense of these copies and $2.00 was allowed. It was suggested that she receive a like amount next year, to cover the entire cost.

It was also suggested that notes of good cheer and speedy recovery be sent by the secretary to the following members who are ill - Dr. F. L. Pyke, Mr. Albert L. Pyke and Mrs. Robert Millis.

The meeting then adjourned for a most enjoyable social hour.

Henry L. Ranch Pres.

Elenor L. Shoemaker - acting sec'y.

Hazelwood. Romney, Indiana.
July 27. 1941. (Sunday)

The ninth annual reunion of the descendents of Furman Leaming - 1786 - 1832 was held at Hazelwood. the home of Mr. and Mrs. Curwen Leaming. The day was excessively hot, nevertheless, all enjoyed the bountiful and delicious basket dinner, for which the Reverend Mr. Charles Rauch gave thanks.

Two groups of pictures were taken by Mrs. Hunter Leaming and Marion Leaming - One group was of those of twenty-five years or older, the other was of the younger descendents.

With Mrs. S.S. Kirkpatrick presiding, the business meeting was opened by the group singing "God Bless America" This was led by Betty Leaming with Mrs. Albert Pyke at the piano. A prayer was then offered by Mr. Charles Rauch.

The minutes of the preceeding meeting were then read and approved; after which the historian, Miss Alice Leaming gave the following report:

Births -

Larry Curwen Leaming, son of Marion and Martha Lou Leaming - December 15, 1940

George David Malsbary, son of George Dale and Ann Malsbary, March 1 - 1941

Hermena Rhea Hoskins, posthumous daughter of Rebecca Simison Hoskins, March 15 - 1941

James David Busse, son of David Paul and Elizabeth Pyke Busse, March 29 - 1941

Deaths:

Mame Foreman Mobray - June 11 - 1940

Herman Ray Hoskins - Sept. 13 - 1940

Furman Leaming Pyke - Dec. 24 - 1940

Marriages:

Hal. D. Leaming, son of Harry Leaming to Vardrene Arntzen, July 12, 1941 at Ponca City, Okla.

Mary Eleanor Leaming, daughter of Marion

Leaming to Ralph J. McDaniel, February 22-1941.
Letters were read from Marion S. Leaming of Oak Park, Ill. Mrs. Warren Booker, Raleigh, N.C. and the Misses Meigs of Lafayette - Mention was made of cards of regret from Stewart and Florence Leaming and Mr. & Mrs. Harry Leaming. Since Mrs. Harry Leaming is seriously ill, it was decided to send her a card from the group.

The report of the treasurer showed a balance of $.10.

The following bills were presented and allowed -

To Mrs. Hunter Leaming, balance due on mimeographed material	2.00
To Mary Simson - postals and card	.60
	$ 2.60

A vote of thanks was carried to Rebecca Hoskins for typing the invitations -

The contribution which was then taken amounted to $7.90

Through John Kirkpatrick, the nominating committee proposed the following names for officers for 1942 -

Pres. - Mrs. S.C. Malsbary
V-Pres. Mrs. Elmer Waters
Secy-Treas. - Mrs. Frank Simson
Historian - Miss Alice Leaming.

The nominations were accepted unanimously.

With the business disposed of, the group then enjoyed a group of songs by Donald Pirke who had won honors in a state contest with these numbers. "When I have sung my songs" - by Ernest Charles and a song in French "Vision Fugitive" by Massenet. We feel justly proud of his fine baritone voice. He was accompanied by his mother.

Betty Leaming then told us of her 9-day trip to Washington, D.C. to the National 4-H camp near the Tidal Basin. Betty was one of the two girls and two boys sent by the state in recognition of exceptionally fine accomplishment in 4-H work. Her ably given

report showed that she had enjoyed a program replete with educational and cultural as well as social advantages.

Mrs. Everett Shoemaker then made comments on the book Standish of Standish, by Austin - in which our forebears, John Howland and Elizabeth Tilly are secondary characters. She compared its authenticity with the findings in the mimeographed copies of the Mayflower lineage as prepared by Mrs. Hunter Leaming. She also noted that Judge Samuel Curwen of Salem was mentioned as a Tory refugee in London in a current book "Oliver Wiswell" by Kenneth Roberts.

A rising vote of thanks was then given to our host and hostess - after which the meeting was closed by group singing of the hymn "God Be With You"

Charlotte L. Kirkpatrick.
President

Mary Simison, Sec'y.

Edgewood, South Raub - Indiana.
June 21 - 1942. (Sunday)

The 10th annual reunion of the Furman Leaming families was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Waters. In contrast to the excessively hot weather of the preceding year, the day was cool and delightful.

Despite the restrictions of sugar rationing, the basket dinner at noon was, as usual, very bounteous and altogether delicious. Hunter Leaming returned thanks for this meal which was so thoroughly enjoyed in the breaking of bread together and in the companionship of relatives and friends gathered together for this annual custom.

In the afternoon while the young children were taken to the woods and creek for their own particular get-together, the older members held a short business meeting, presided over by Mrs. Mary Leaming Malsbary. The minutes of the former meeting were read and approved. The report of the treasurer showed a balance of $5.40. The contributions taken at this point in the meeting amounted to $6.95. The bills presented and allowed were: To Mrs Waters, for ice cream, $2.20 - to the secretary, for postals .30.

Miss Alice Leaming, the historian gave her report for the year as follows: Births, none.

Marriages - Rebecca Simison Hoskins to Ralph H. Crowder - April 29 - 1942

Deaths - Florida Loft Leaming, wife of Harry C. Leaming, Feb. 10 - 1942.

The nominating committee, through Mrs. Waters, presented the following names for officers for 1943:

President - Albert L. Pyke
V. Pres. - Mrs. Louise Leaming Thornton
Sec'y-treas. - Mrs. Mary Simison
Historian - Miss Alice Leaming.

The report was accepted and since no names were presented from the floor. the secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the names as presented.

A vote of thanks and appreciation for their hospitality was accorded to Mr. and Mrs. Waters, and the meeting closed with all singing the hymn "God Be with You."

During the social hour which followed, group pictures were taken by Mrs. Hunter Leaming and Marion Leaming.

The register showed an attendance of 43 relatives and friends.

Mary L. Simison, Sec'y. Mary L Malsbary, Pres.

Romney, Indiana
Sunday, July 18, 1943

The eleventh annual reunion of the Furman Leaming families was held at the Presbyterian Church, with a somewhat smaller attendance than usual. The register recorded thirty six names. Sam Millis had charge of the register. After the basket dinner, for which the Reverend Mr. Ward returned thanks, the group gathered in the auditorium for the afternoon program. Albert Pyke, as chairman, presided.

The meeting was opened with the favorite hymn "Come to the Church in the Wild Wood." Esther Shoemaker played the accompaniment and Albert Pyke led the singing. With such able encouragement the audience responded unusually well. With James Shoemaker leading, the audience then pledged allegiance to the flag and sang "America."

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. A vote of thanks was passed for the use of the church and the secretary was instructed to write to the proper authorities.

Alice Leaming, the Historian, then gave the following report:

The marriage of Betty Anne Leaming to Alvin Ernest Morehouse, July 3, 1942.

The birth of Susan Jane Crowder, to Ralph and Rebecca Simison Crowder, May 7, 1943

The death of Fern Pyke, wife of David C. Pyke, March 13, 1943.

The group stood for a moment of silent tribute to her memory.

The meeting was then turned over to Elinor Leaming Shoemaker, in charge of the feature of the program, entitled "Leaming Descendents in the Military Services." The Leamings in the Civil War were represented by Col. Henry Leaming, but in the absence of Cousin

Harry Leaming, no report on his services was given.

The following reports were given on those who served in World War I: Cousin Charlotte told us of Leaming Kirkpatrick who was in training at Purdue for the navy; Inez Pyke told us of Leaming Pyke who was a first lieutenant in the medical corps of the army and was taking officer's training at Fort Riley in Kansas; Hunter Leaming spoke of his own experiences in the army air corps at a camp at Americus, Georgia, where Ruby and Jim joined him later.

At this point in the program, Sam Malebary sang several songs to the delight of his listeners.

The program was then continued with accounts of the whereabouts of Leaming descendants in World War II, ~~whose names were presented by ages, the youngest first~~. Eleanor Leaming read a letter from Fred Leaming telling of Joe's enlistment as aviation cadet in the army air corps and his training at various points on the Pacific coast. He was called to service in February, 1943.

An account of Jim Atherton was then given by his Aunt Mary Simison. Jim is in the V-12 class of Naval Reserves and on July 1, 1943 was sent to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at Cambridge, the finest engineering school in the world.

Esther Pyke told us of Donald's training in Louisiana and in Coral Gables, Florida. He is specializing as a navigator in the Army Air Corps. He was called to service in February, 1943.

Rowland Simison is also an aviation cadet but is in the naval reserves. He has been stationed at De Pauw University Pre-Flight School, at Northwestern University for elementary flying and is now at Iowa University for further pre-flight training. He was called to service in January, 1943.

We understand that all three of these boys who have been in training in the air corps for some months are doing excellent work and are maintaining

records of which as a family we may well be proud.

To conclude this list his mother read entertaining and informative excerpts from the letters of Jim Leaming, now in England. Jim entered the service in April, 1942 and is a member of the 107th Ordnance Company. He had specialists training at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland and also being at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he was entertained by the Bochers, and Camp Blanding, Florida, was sent overseas in November, 1942. He is in an Ordnance depot at Salisbury and comes in contact with English civilians and officers of many of the Allied Nations. On a furlough he travelled through northern England and Scotland.

After these reports news was given of family connections in the services - about six in number.

The secretary then read the report of the nominating committee which presented the following names;

Ruby Leaming, chairman
Mary Emerson, secretary
Curwen Leaming, treasurer of the Centennial Fund
Alice Leaming, historian.

No nominations were suggested from the floor, so these were unanimously accepted.

The collection amounted to $9.70.

Since 1944 marks the 100th year since the migration of the Leaming family from Philadelphia to Romney, plans for a centennial were discussed. It was suggested that a booklet might be prepared giving the Leaming lineage from the Pilgrims down to the current generations, and some history of the family ~~and~~ with a few illustrations. Eleanor Leaming reported that an estimate of the cost of such a book, based on present prices might be $1.00 or $1.25 for the first one hundred copies.

After some discussion Emma Waters moved that a

committee be instructed to go ahead with what it thinks the family would want in such a booklet. The motion was seconded by Cousin Mame Malabary and was carried when put to vote. It was decided that the project would have to be underwritten with subscriptions accepted from members of the family at the close of the meeting.

Emma Wallis reported that her sister, Ann Booker had sent greetings to the group.

A vote of thanks was extended to the committee who had planned the meeting, as well as a vote of thanks to Cousin Harry for the use of the portrait.

The program closed with the hymn, "Faith of Our Fathers"

+ Albert Pogue
Chairman

Mary Simmons
Secretary.

Hazelwood, Romney, Indiana
July 23, 1944

The 12th annual reunion of the descendants of Furman Leaming, 1786-1832 was held at Hazelwood, the home of Curwen and Ruth Leaming, the fourth time that they have been hosts to this family gathering. We have been especially pleased to accept their gracious hospitality on this particular day, since this reunion has been in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the coming of our forebears from Philadelphia who established their home here and founded this family whose descendants for this past century have influenced the culture and progress of this community.

The usual abundant and delicious basket dinner was served at noon, for which Stewart Leaming returned thanks. During the dinner "Happy Birthday" was sung in honor of Betty Leaming Morehouse and Ellen Rauch Payne.

The afternoon program with Ruby Leaming as chairman was opened by singing in concert "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow." This was followed by a speech of welcome from the chairman. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read by the secretary and approved.

The secretary read letters or excerpts from letters from those who sent their greetings, including Marion Leaming of Chicago; Anne Leaming Booker, then at San Antonio, Texas; Elinor Austin Atherton, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania; Mr. Charles Rauch, Flora, Indiana; Mr. C.C. Ward, of the Romney Presbyterian Church; and a note of congratulation on our hundredth anniversary from the Dr. McCay Family.

The chairman read a very fine letter from Mr. Herbert Heimlich, president of the Tippecanoe County Historical Association, expressing his regret at being unable to attend such a momentous meeting and

commending the Leaming family not only for their contribution to the development of their community, but for the preservation of the family records.

These letters were followed by the historian's report of the marriages, births and deaths of the past year, which are as follows:-

Marriages:—

Marjorie Pyke to Dr. John A. Crawford, Dec. 5, 1943

Margaret Elinor Inskeep to James R. Martin, Dec. 29, 1943

Births:-

Elizabeth Ann, daughter of David and Elizabeth Pyke Busse - Aug. 4, 1943

Larry Dean, son of Harry and Ruth Inskeep, Sept. 17, 1943

James Ernest, son of Alvin Ernest and Betty Leaming Morehouse, Mar. 9, 1944

Margaret Ann, daughter of Dale and Ann Malsbary, May 8, 1944

Carol Lyn, daughter of Ralph and Rebecca Simison Crowder, July 6, 1944.

Deaths:—

Elinor Curwen Inskeep, Dec. 6, 1943

Samuel S. Kirkpatrick, Feb. 26, 1944

Henry Leaming Rauch, June 6, 1944

A moment of silent prayer was held in their memory.

The feature of the program was Emma Leaming Waters' interesting and informative talk entitled "One Hundred Years at Hazelwood." She opened her remarks by saying that a family begins to take an interest in its past after those who know about it are gone. She told why the brothers and sisters had come out and gave their early struggle as pioneers. She described the original house at Hazelwood and spoke of the dramatic incidents of the families which have lived there.

Ruby Leaming then described the Leaming Centennial Booklet, explained that a picture of the

group then present would later be included in each booklet and that the booklets would be distributed after the program.

The following bills were presented and allowed.-

To Ruby Leaming - dinner supplies -	$ 2.20
" Alice Leaming - historians " -	.40
" Mary Simison - sec'y supplies & postage	3.16
for 160 Centennial Booklets	132.00
" cuts for same	26.19
To Marion Leaming for centennial pictures	20.00
	183.95

The photographer's bill was not presented, but was also allowed.

The nominating committee composed of Albert Pyke, Elinor Shoemaker and Eleanor Leaming presented the following names for office for 1945; -

Pres. - Luther Leaming
V-Pres. - Esther Ruth Shoemaker
Sec'y-Treas. - Mary Simison
Hist - - Alice Leaming

No nominations were made from the floor, the nominations were voted closed, and the report of the committee accepted by acclamation.

Louise Thornton then moved that the last Sunday in July be made the permanent date for the family reunions. The motion was seconded by Emma Waters and was carried.

A vote of thanks to the committee on the booklet was presented by Esther Pyke, seconded by Elinor Shoemaker and was carried.

A vote of thanks and a good hand were given to Ruth and Curwen Leaming for their hospitality

Mrs. Edgar Mitchell, representing Randolph Township in the Tippecanoe County Historical Association spoke for the guests, saying that she felt honored to be a part of the 100th anniversary and the 12th reunion of the family.

(Louise Brown*) asked for two centennial booklets which she wanted to present to the Library of the Daughters of the American Revolution and to the Historical Division of the Library of Congress, both at Washington, D.C.

Elmer Waters asked for family portraits and relics for the Tippecanoe County Historical Association.

Mention was made of those serving in the armed forces, both blood kin and those related by marriage, which made a list of twelve men.

Singing concluded the program, a solo by Rosemary Pell, "Goodnight, Wherever You Are," and our usual closing hymn sung in concert - "God Be With You".

Ruby Z. Leasure Chairman

Mary Simison, Sec'y.

*
Correction:
Miss Louise Brown, Dean of Women of American University, Washington, D.C.

1014 South Street
Lafayette, Indiana
July 29 - 1945

The 13th annual reunion of the Leaming Family was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert L. Pyke with thirty-seven present. Stewart Leaming returned thanks for the basket dinner, delicious and abundant as usual despite war time food restrictions.

The business meeting which followed was in charge of Luther Leaming, the chairman, and was opened by the reading of the minutes of the centennial reunion of 1944. Ruby Leaming suggested that Louise Brown be given her professional title, so the minutes were corrected to read, Miss Louise Brown, Dean of Women of American University, Washington, D.C. after which the minutes were accepted.

Miss Emily Meigs told us that through Hester Meigs, a copy of "The Ancestry of the Romney Leamings" had been sent to the library of Fairfield, Connecticut, where many Mayflower records have been collected.

The historian, Alice Leaming, gave the following report:

Births:

Donald Marion, son of Marion and Martha Lou Leaming, born March 3, 1945

Robert Duane, son of Harry and Ruth Inskeep, born July 5, 1945

Marriages:

Joseph Leaming to Margaret Alice Hinman which took place in Florida in the fall of 1944 before Joe was sent over-seas to England.

Mary Alice Leaming to Dr. Leonard Anthony Poznak, October 15, 1944.

Notes of remembrance and good wishes were read from Anne and Warren Booker, Laura and John

Austin and Elinor Atherton.

Ruby Leaming reported that by request she had sent a copy of the centennial booklet to the Institute of American Genealogy of Chicago, and had received their acknowledgement. Quoting from the letter, it reads, "The lineages in this work will be indexed and will become a part of the master lineage index of the National Clearing House for Genealogical Information."

She also had sent at their request a copy of the booklet to the Minneapolis Historical Association. It was decided that the secretary should send corrected copies of the booklet to the Indiana State Library at Indianapolis and the Wells Memorial Library at Lafayette. Also it was voted that corrections be sent to the other libraries which have the booklets.

The next feature was the correction of dates, and so on, in the booklets. It was decided that the historian keep the changes noted and additions from year to year, and that mimeographed copies of the same be provided members of the family.

The induction of Robert Ewing Ehoemaker into the United States Army, September 13, 1944 was mentioned and the following promotions were reported: Donald Pyke and Joe Leaming to first lieutenants, Ernest Morehouse to lieutenant, junior grade, Jim Leaming to corporal.

The only bill presented was that of the secretary of $1.32 for postage, which was allowed.

The nominating committee composed of Hunter Leaming, Albert Pyke and Curwen Leaming presented the following names for officers for 1946

President, Emma Leaming Waters
V. Pres. Eleanor Patton Leaming
Secy-Tres. Mary Austin Simson
Historian, Alice Leaming.

The nominations were closed and the report of the

committee was accepted by acclamation.

Eleanor Leaming reported that a Richard Leaming from New Jersey was a civilian pilot at an Indianapolis air port. He was in a hospital there recovering from injuries received when his plane crashed, and was visited by Margaret Inskeep Martin. Although he does not know much family history he said that there were Eldredges in his ancestry and he expressed the intention of coming to Romney to make the acquaintance of the family here.

Hunter Leaming turned ~~over~~ in a collection of $12.50 which makes a total in the treasury of $32.73.

A vote of thanks was extended to Marion Leaming for his good work on the pictures of the 100th anniversary group. And a glad hand was given to Esther and Albert Pyke in appreciation of their cordial hospitality; after which the meeting was adjourned.

Lucien C. Leaming, Chairman

Mary Simmons, Secretary.

Romney, Indiana

Sunday, July 28. 1946.

The descendants of Furman Leaming (1756-1832) met at the home of Frank and Mary Simison at Romney for their fourteenth annual reunion. The weather was delightful, a welcome change from the uncomfortable heat of the high 90's of the previous few weeks.

With the help of a committee composed of Elinor Shoemaker, Ruth and Ruby Leaming, the dinner, for which Elmer Waters returned thanks was served with ease and comfort to over forty persons who ate at card tables both in the house and on the back lawn. The dinner was abundant and delicious and despite food shortages, there were several salads made with gelatine, a hard to find ingredient, and there was plenty y sugar for coffee and iced tea. Miss Emily Meigs brought a big bag of such large and perfectly ripened bananas that they were cut in halves so that everyone could have a share of that favored fruit which has been so scarce during the war years. Large platters of chicken made us forget the meat shortage.

Plate dinners were sent to Cousin Harry Leaming who, although well - at 84 - finds it hard to be among so many people - and to Mary Jane Malsbary who wasn't feeling well enough to come to the reunion.

After dinner a short business meeting was in charge of the chairman, Emma Leaming Waters. The minutes were read and Ruby Leaming suggested that the phrase "by request" be inserted in connection with the mention of a centennial booklet being sent to The Institute of American Genealogy of Chicago. The minutes were then accepted.

Alice Leaming, the historian, gave the following report:

Births: A daughter, Andra Jean to John and Marjorie Pyke Crawford of Indianapolis, September 5. 1945.
A son, Richard McBee to George and Martha McBee Inskeep, New Richmond, Indiana - March 12, 1946.

Marriages: Nancy Jane McDermott of Toledo, Ohio to Rowland McMillin Simison, Jan. 19, 1946 at Santa Barbara, California.

A nominating committee composed of Albert Pyke, Mary Malsbary and Esther Shoemaker presented the following names for officers for 1947:

Pres. Stewart Leaming
V-Pres. Elmer Shoemaker
Sec'y-Treas. - Mary Simison
Historian - Alice Leaming.

No other nominations were made from the floor so the above named were accepted by acclamation.

There was a collection of $8.25

The following bills were presented and allowed:

Postage	.64
Ice	.60
	$1.24

Since it had been announced that instead of the usual ice cream for dessert we would serve watermelon on the back lawn after the program, the group decided to pay for the melons, although the hostess had planned to serve them as her share of the dinner. Five melons were eaten, which at the wholesale price of 50¢ each, amounted to $2.50. This made the total expense come to $3.74 which leaves a balance in the treasury of $37.24.

Greetings from absentees were read, a card from Inez Pyke on vacation in Connecticut and an entertaining letter from Anne Booker. She and

ER

Leaming Reunion Held at Romney

ROMNEY, Aug. 1.—The 14th annual reunion of the Leaming family was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Simison, with the president, Mrs. Elmer Waters, in charge. Officers elected for next year are: Stewart Leaming, president; Mrs. Everet Shoemaker, vice-president; Mrs. Frank M. Simison, secretary-treasurer; Miss Alice Leaming, historian. Forty members and guests were present, including Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Leaming, Valparaiso; Miss Louise Brown, Washington, D. C.; Lt. Cmdr. M. V. Kitts, Yorktown Naval Base, Va.; Miss Helen Bogart, Tuscaloosa, Ala., and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Moorehouse and son, Jimmy, Elkhart.

a friend of Jim Leamings - Lt. Cmdr. M. V. Kitts, Yorktown Naval Base, Va. - was also present.

Warren are now making their home in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where Warren, since leaving the service, is State Sanitary Engineer. Anne spoke of having met at Santa Fe, a lady who once knew a Dr. Leaming there. This same person told her that Dr. Lewis Leaming, previous to his marriage, had roomed and boarded with her grandmother in Otterbein, Indiana.

Anne had sent a copy of a letter in her possession, written from Florence, Italy in 1830, addressed to Furman Leaming, Esq.

Merchant 106 High Street
Philadelphia U. S. A.

The seal on the letter had unfortunately been placed on the signature, blotting out all of the name except the initial letter S. Emma read this letter to us - but since a copy of the letter will be written in the secretary's book, the contents will not be incorporated in the minutes.

Reports were given about the Thorntons who have moved to Kansas City, Mo. - of Donald Peyke who will be home from New York City on vacation in September, and of Robert Leaming, in the navy.

We were glad that Miss Emily Meigs - although 85, was able to spend the day with us, and that Mrs. Anna Kellerman could come. We were also happy to have Louise Brown from Bethesda, Maryland, with us. Louise has resigned her deanship at the American University at Washington but is now professor of English there. We were delighted to see again Helen Bozard, a friend of Eleanor Leaming. Helen is professor of Home Economics Education at the University of Alabama.

Thanks were expressed to the Lost and Hostess for their hospitality and the meeting was adjourned to the back lawn for water melon and conversation

Pres.

Mary Simpson - Sec'y.

Copy of the letter read by Emma Leaming Waters at the reunion - July 28. 1946.
The original letter is in the possession of Anne Leaming Booker. It is addressed to

Furman Leaming, Esq.
Merchant, 106 High Street
Philadephia, U.S.A.

Florence, Italy
10 February, 1830.

Dear Coz Furm -

Ain't you a naughty boy to allow Joe to leave Philadelphia without a line to us? But perhaps he is to blame, and he has requested that I shall account to you for the reason why he did not call at your home, - he was notified of the sudden sailing of the ship and was so hurried, and that he was admitted to the bar but one hour before leaving Philadelphia.

I propose that he shall see a little of Europe and then return home, which he is already anxious to do and promises to devote himself exclusively to the practice of the Law. He is well aware that he must make his way by his own energy, and, as he is determined to be independent, I really think that he will apply himself to his profession. He is sanguine that he will succeed and I should be very sorry to discourage him, only I always impress upon his mind that success will depend upon himself.

We shall leave here for Rome on Monday next (the 14th instant). It is possible that we may be there at the installation of His Holiness, the new Pope. Our future events are uncertain. We may return by way of Havre, as there are no packets from the Mediterranean, and the late insurrectionary movements have put it out of the question

to take the Simplon Road as Bologna and Modena are in a state of revolt, and the reports yesterday spoke of the revolutionary spirit at Genoa, through which we pass to cross Mont Cenes, so both routes are blocked up.

Well now to tell you how we go on. Last night we were at a ball given by the Sovereign, the Grand Duke of Tuscany to which we have an invitation once a week. The Lion of the evening was the Dey of Algiers, who, with his suite, was a guest. His wife, or wives, for he has, it appears, 50 at the least, were not there, but his ministers, five or six in number, amused us very much. They sat on benches covered with damask silk, gathered their feet under them as a taylor does when he is at work, sitting with their shoes off, scratching their feet, one of them scratching a hole in his stocking. They looked surprised at what they saw. The poor old Dey was surrounded by ladies, most of whom were Princesses or Duchesses and made particular enquiry of a gentleman about them. One lady, brilliantly attired, approached him. She was young and pretty, with a Princess. "That woman," he said, "is worth $50." Of the Marchioness Centeri he said, "By the Prophet but she is fine! I'd give $1000 for her". There was a little lady of high rank and royal blood, but somewhat deformed, that danced a Cotillion immediately before him. He turned up his Royal nose at her. "Pshaw," said the Dey, "She ain't worth five Dollars." In fact I never saw anything more out of place. When the Ladies were introduced to him he did not rise from his seat but greeted them in his own manner as though they were of a sex quite inferior to him. As I stood near he offered me a pinch of snuff from his box, which it

appears was considered quite gracios. I must tell you that all through Europe Americans are in great favor. In this part of the world the Squadron makes us known, and when the Dey was told that we were Americans, he remembered, I suppose, the thrashings they had given him on former occasions.

When we shall return home I do not yet know. The girls are going on as usual, taking lessons in the Italian language every day. Helen chatters away like a little Italian. Our cook does not speak one word of French, so that Helen acts as an interpreter. She goes frequently with Nunzi, the cook, to visit a little Virgin at the corner of one of the streets in our neighborhood which poor Nunzi has under her protection and to which she devotes no small portion of her times and wages in the shape of wax candles and fresh flowers. She goes with us to Rome and has been to the Priest to get leave to eat meat while in Rome, which sometimes, poor toad, she don't dare do for days together.

Well, so the world goes – You must write to me soon telling me how you are all going on, as we are anxious to know all about you. Emma desires her affectionate love to Cousin Hannah and to all. God bless you, dear Cousin Fum,

Most affectionately

S —(Broken seal)—

Feb. 11.

We expect, dear Cousins, to pass one year at our quarters in Switzerland; – would you like to perfect one of your children in the French language? If so, Emma desires me to invite you to send one of the boys or one of the girls. She will take every care of him, or of her. At Albo there is an excellent

pension for boys; if one of the girls, she could mix in the excellent Swiss society where French alone is spoken. You could find a favorable opportunity to send her on one of the Packets from New York to Havre, where, if such be your wish, I will meet her and conduct her to Switzerland. Now this is not visionary. I really think it would be very useful to her, and I counsel you to reflect seriously on the matter. Let us hear from you soon.

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His wife, Emma, writes a postscript in red ink which has faded with age. As there was no space left for her note, she turned the paper endways and wrote across her husband's writing, —

"My dear Cousin Hannah, Do, I pray you, allow Sarah to come to spend a year with us in Switzerland. I assure you that we shall do all in our power to make her happy. She shall have the best in everything. With Helen she would go to pleasant parties, in arts she will have the best masters. She would acquire a finish and poise from travel. With affectionate love to you, dear Cousin Hannah, Emma.

Romney Presbyterian Church
Sunday, July 27, 1947

Thirty-three descendants of Furman Leaming held their 15th annual reunion in the Romney Presbyterian church. The remodelled dining room in the church basement made a cool and pleasant place to gather at noon for the abundant and delicious dinner set on flower bedecked tables. The committee of Ruth Leaming and Elinor Shoemaker was responsible for the convenient and well appointed tables.

The effect of the lifting of sugar rationing was evidenced by the appearance of many delectable cakes which had been missing from our basket dinners during the war years. The sweetening for the iced tea and coffee was also no problem. A plate dinner was sent home to Cousin Harry Leaming through the efforts of Ruth and Curwen Leaming.

Following the dinner, Marion Leaming took several pictures of the group on the church steps.

In the absence of Stewart Leaming, chairman, the program was in charge of Elinor Shoemaker, vice-chairman. The minutes of the previous year were read and approved.

Alice Leaming, the historian, gave the following report:

Births:

To James R. and Margaret Inskeep Martin, a daughter, Elinor Jean, May 5, 1947, at Lafayette.

To Rowland McMillin and Nancy McDermott Simison, a son, Greg McMillin, May 12, 1947, at Toledo, Ohio.

To Leonard and Mary Alice Leaming Pozak, a son, Bruce Leaming, June 29, 1947, at Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Deaths:

Furman Leaming Inskeep, December 5, 1946
Emma Leaming Waters, March 17, 1947
Charlotte Leaming Shipley, June 4, 1947
Harry H. Leaming, July 5, 1947 at
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Marriages:

Charlotte Leaming Kirkpatrick to Albert Shipley, February 5, 1947.
Mary Viola Kitts to James H. Leaming, February 16 - 1947.
Rosemary Pell to Robert Euring Shoemaker, April 18, 1947.
Kjersti Franklin to Donald Leaming Pyke, April 29, 1947, at Fresno, California.
Esther Ruth Shoemaker to Leslie, Services, July 16, 1947, at Portsmouth, Virginia.

Due to the unusually large number of deaths in the family, of those who contributed so much toward the furtherance of the family spirit and the continuance of the reunions, a memorial program followed, with tributes:

An appreciative talk by Curwen Leaming as tribute to Furman Inskeep, in which he spoke of Furman's popularity and the fact that he was widely known throughout this locality and the state. He recalled several amusing incidents of their boyhood, showing Furman's wit and originality. He spoke of his generosity, planning and contributing largely to civic projects, a specific instance being the memorial board on the school grounds in honor of local boys in service. Many acts of kindness and thoughtfulness were often unknown. He was apt in his work, with a practical education

and was quick at mental calculations. Although he was not a regular church attendant he had a highly developed religious sense, which was deeply imbedded in his character. His kindness to children was well known, especially to under-privileged children. In conclusion Curwen said that we have much to appreciate and to be proud of Furman as a member of the Leaming family.

Word had come to Romney of the death of Harry H. Leaming, 60, son of Furman and Ellen Spitler Leaming in Oklahoma City. He was a leading citizen and active in financial circles.

A very fine tribute to Emma Waters was prepared and read by Ruby Leaming. It was based on Proverbs, XXXI, Solomon's praise of a virtuous woman.

The papers on Charlotte Shipley and Emma Waters are incorporated in the secretary's records and so are not given in detail in this record of the program. Since the talk on Furman was given from very brief notes, it has been enlarged upon in the minutes.

The secretary read letters from Anne and Warren Booker, and from Fred Leaming.

Elinor Atherton had found in some old correspondence a public school report card of Lily Leaming (Aunt Bess Pyke) for 1875. Her grades were read in the various subjects and the average was 99 4/5. On the back was a list of her class mates and Miss Emily Meigs said that she also had belonged to that class.

The only bill presented was for postage, 33¢, which was allowed.

The nominating committee of John Kirkpatrick, Marion Leaming and Mary Viola Leaming presented

the following names for office for 1948:
President, Elmer Shoemaker
Vice-president, Marion Leaming
Sec'y. Treasurer, Mary Simison
Historian, Alice Leaming.
No nominations were made from the floor and the report was accepted by acclamation. The committee also recommended that each year the vice president succeed to the presidency the following year. The recommendation was accepted.

A collection of $9.10 was received, bringing the balance to $46.01.

Informal remarks were made by several present. Betty Morehouse spoke of meeting a James Clinton Shaw whose grandmother was a Leaming, who had married a Mr. Hand and lived in the family home at Cape May, New Jersey.

The meeting then adjourned by singing one verse of God Be With You, with Ruby Leaming at the piano.

Elenor L. Shoemaker Vice president
Mary Simison, Secretary.

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Leaming

JULY 75
N. MANCHESTER,
INDIANA